REPORT

OF THE

CIVIL JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

Bombay Presidency,

FOR

THE YEAR 1851.

Bombay:

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on 10 January, 2019

No. 3376 of 1852.

To

The Secretary to Government,

Judicial Department.

Sir,

Present, J. Warden, P. W. LeGeyt, and G. Grant, Esquires.

I have the honor, by direction of the Judges, to submit, to be laid before the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, the accompanying Statements, 1 to 18, showing the results of the Civil Judicial Administration of the Bombay Presidency for 1851, contrasted with 1850, together with Statements 1 to 12, showing the same in respect to the Revenue Courts. The usual Statement showing the European Officers who presided over the several Civil and Criminal Courts, and the business disposed of by each, is also herewith transmitted.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) J. MORRIS,

First Assistant Registrar.

Bombay, Sudder Dewanee Adawlut,
2nd December 1852.

J. G. Lumsden, Esquire.

CIVIL COURTS.

No. I.—PUNCHAYETS.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	....	....
Instituted during the year	70	43
Total....	70	43
Decided on merits	69	43
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	....	....
Adjusted	1	....
Otherwise disposed of	....	....
Total....	70	43
Depending 31st December	....	....

NOTE.—Of the 43 Cases in this Statement, 1 was disposed of by Punchayet in the Ahmedabad Zillah, 34 in the Poona Zillah, 2 in the Dharwar Zillah, and 6 within the Jurisdiction of the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan.

No. II.—JAGHEERDARS.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	130	93
Instituted during the year	409	262
Total....	539	355
Decided on merits	258	144
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	51	24
Adjusted	88	41
Otherwise disposed of	49	52
Total....	446	261
Depending 31st December	93	94

NOTE.—This Statement embodies the work of 10 Jagheerdars in the Poona Zillah, and 3 in the Ahmednuggur Zillah.

No. III.—MOONSIFFS.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	9298	12084
Instituted during the year	73030	74965
Total....	82328	87049
Decided on merits	49709	51172
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	2632	2998
Adjusted	17279	17693
Otherwise disposed of	624	914
Total....	70244	72777
Depending 31st December	12084	14272

NOTE.—Of the 74,965 Suits here shown as instituted, 12,907 were entered in the Ahmedabad Zillah, 2,638 in the Surat Zillah, 5,593 in the Broach division of the Surat Zillah, 8,366 in the Tanna Zillah, 3,488 in the Rutnagherry division of the Konkan Zillah, 9,448 in the Poona Zillah, 4,251 in the Sholapoor Zillah, 13,118 in the Ahmednuggur Zillah, 8,480 in the Khandesh Zillah, 4,914 in the Dharwar Zillah, and the rest, viz. 1,742, in the Colaba Agency.

There were engaged in the disposal of these and of the arrears 12 Moonsiffs in the Ahmedabad Zillah, 4 in the Surat Zillah, 4 in the Broach division of the Surat Zillah, 10 in the Tanna, and 4 in the Rutnagherry divisions of the Konkan Zillah, 7 in the Poona Zillah, 4 in the Sholapoor Zillah, 10 in the Ahmednuggur Zillah, 5 in the Khandesh Zillah, 5 in the Dharwar Zillah, and 1 in the Colaba Agency.

No. IV.—SUDDER AMEENS.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	2738	2500
Instituted during the year	17498	16534
Total....	20236	19034
Decided on merits	11982	10538
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	1525	1273
Adjusted	4028	3324
Otherwise disposed of	201	147
Total....	17736	15282
Depending 31st December	2500	3752

NOTE.—Of the number instituted in this Statement, 3,049 were entered in the Ahmedabad Zillah, 1,021 in the Surat Zillah, 1,489 in the Broach division of the Surat Zillah, 1,158 in the Rutnagherry division of the Tanna Zillah, 3,127 in the Poona Zillah, 1,201 in the Sholapoor Zillah, 2,505 in the Ahmednuggur Zillah, 1,755 in the Khandesh Zillah, and 1,229 in the Dharwar Zillah; there being employed in the disposal of them 3 Sudder Ameens in the Ahmedabad Zillah, 2 in each of the Surat, Poona, Ahmednuggur, and Dharwar Zillahs, and 1 in each of the Zillahs of Sholapoor and Khandesh, and 1 in the Rutnagherry division of the Konkan Zillah.

No. V.—PRINCIPAL SUDDER AMEENS.

	1850.		1851.	
	Original.	Appeal.	Original.	Appeal.
Depending 1st January	1072	5	1237	121
Instituted during the year	7394	..	7097	368
Total....	8466	5	8334	489
Decided on merits	5182	5	4857	448
Dismissed	....	..	....	....
Dismissed on default	562	..	526	22
Adjusted	1434	..	1092	5
Otherwise disposed of	51	..	81	....
Total....	7229	5	6556	475
Depending 31st December	1237	..	1778	14

NOTE.—There were no Appeals depending at the end of 1850, and the 121 here shown as depending on the 1st January 1851 were transferred from the file of the Judge of Ahmedabad to that of the Principal Sudder Ameen.

There were 1,282 Original Suits instituted in the Ahmedabad Zillah, 941 in the Surat division of the Surat Zillah, 968 in the Tanna division of the Konkan Zillah, 1,162 in the Poona Zillah, 1 in the Sholapoor Zillah, where a Principal Sudder Ameen was appointed for the first time on the 12th November 1851. In the Ahmednuggur Zillah there were 1,462 instituted, and 1,281 in the Dharwar Zillah.

Of the Appeals instituted, 241 were filed in the Ahmedabad Zillah, and 127 in the Ahmednuggur Zillah, in which jurisdiction only the Principal Sudder Ameens decided Appeals.

No. VI.—ASSISTANT AGENT.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	16	3
Instituted during the year	17	18
Total....	33	21
Decided on merits	26	8
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	....	1
Adjusted	1	....
Otherwise disposed of	3	....
Total....	30	9
Depending 31st December	3	12

NOTE.—There is only 1 Assistant Agent attached to the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan.

No. VII.—AGENTS.

	1850.		1851.	
	Original.	Appeal.	Original.	Appeal.
Depending 1st January	9	67	19	59
Instituted during the year	28	122	33	139
Total....	37	189	52	198
Decided on merits	15	126	19	112
Dismissed	....	..	....	..
Dismissed on default	1	..	4	5
Adjusted	2	..	2	2
Otherwise disposed of	....	4	3	2
Total....	18	130	28	121
Depending 31st December	19	59	24	77

NOTE.—This shows the work of the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan, and the Agents at Belgaum and Colaba. The Appeals are from the decisions of the Jagheerdars (Statement No. 2) and of the Assistant Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan entered in Statement No. 6.

No. VIII.—ASSISTANT JUDGES.

	1850.		1851.	
	Original.	Appeal.	Original.	Appeal.
Depending 1st January	37	560	51	705
Instituted during the year	58	1989	33	2262
Total....	95	2549	84	2967
Decided on merits	30	1729	46	2015
Dismissed	..	....	..	....
Dismissed on default	8	44	3	119
Adjusted	6	38	3	71
Otherwise disposed of	..	54	1	49
Total....	44	1865	53	2254
Depending 31st December	51	684	31	713

NOTE.—There were only 684 Appeals depending at the end of 1850, but 21 having been transferred to the file of the Assistant Judge of Ahmedabad from the Judge's, the number shown as depending on the 1st January 1851 is 705.

In the total number of Appeals disposed of, viz. 2,254, are included 360 disposed of by the Joint Judge at Rutnagherry.

For the disposal of the business exhibited in this Statement there were the Joint Judge of Rutnagherry, the Senior Assistant Judges of Broach and Rutnagherry, and the 6 Assistant Judges of Ahmedabad, Surat, Tanna, Poona, Ahmednuggur, and Dharwar, the work of each of whom is as follows :—by the Assistant Judge of Ahmedabad 27 Original Suits and 67 Appeals ; by the Assistant Judge of Surat 11 Suits and 65 Appeals ; by the Senior Assistant Judge of Broach 5 Suits and 145 Appeals ; by the Assistant Judge of Tanna 3 Suits and 211 Appeals ; by the Senior Assistant Judge of Rutnagherry 2 Suits and 713 Appeals ; by the Assistant Judge of Poona 1 Suit and 365 Appeals ; by the Assistant Judge of Ahmednuggur 1 Suit and 340 Appeals ; and by the Assistant Judge of Dharwar 3 Suits and 348 Appeals.

No. IX.—JOINT JUDGE.

	1850.		1851.	
	Original.	Appeal.	Original.	Appeal.
Depending 1st January	..	360	..	....
Instituted during the year	..	165	..	....
Total....	..	525	..	....
Decided on merits	..	489	..	....
Dismissed	..	....	..	....
Dismissed on default	..	23	..	....
Adjusted	..	13	..	....
Otherwise disposed of	..	....	..	....
Total....	..	525	..	....
Depending 31st December	..	....	..	....

NOTE.—The work of the Joint Judge of Rutnagherry, which ought to have been shown in this Statement, appears in Statement No. 8, having been embodied in the Return furnished by the Senior Assistant Judge in charge of that division of the Konkan Zillah.

No. X.—ZILLAH JUDGES.

	1850.		1851.	
	Original.	Appeal.	Original.	Appeal.
Depending 1st January	8	786	7	892
Instituted during the year	47	2470	56	1762
Total....	55	3256	63	2654
Decided on merits	3	1450	5	1307
Dismissed	..	....	..	....
Dismissed on default	39	108	37	86
Adjusted	3	61	1	48
Otherwise disposed of	3	603	3	481
Total....	48	2222	46	1922
Depending 31st December	7	1034	17	732

NOTE.—Of the Appeals in this Statement 121 transferred from the file of the Judge of Ahmedabad to that of his Principal Sudder Ameen, and 21 to his Assistants, are not included in the number given as depending on the 1st January 1851.

There were the 8 Zillah Judges of Ahmedabad, Surat, Tanna, Poona, Sholapoor, Ahmednuggur, Khandesh, and Dharwar employed in the disposal of the business shown in this Statement. The work of each is as follows :—by the Judge of Ahmedabad 83 Appeals ; by the Judge of Surat 3 Original Suits and 155 Appeals ; by the Judge of Tanna 122 Appeals ; by the Judge of Poona 3 Original Suits and 236 Appeals ; by the Judge of Sholapoor 3 Original Suits and 234 Appeals ; by the Judge of Ahmednuggur 26 Original Suits and 243 Appeals ; by the Judge of Khandesh 11 Original Suits and 241 Appeals ; and by the Judge of Dharwar 608 Appeals.

No. XI.—SUDDER DEWANEE ADAWLUT.

	1850.	1851.
	Appeal.	Appeal.
Depending 1st January	236	318
Instituted during the year	190	111
Total....	426	429
Decided	1	....
Dismissed on default	....	4
Adjusted	2	1
Confirmed	38	86
Amended	3	8
Reversed	64	95
Total....	108	194
Depending 31st December	318	235

NOTE.—In explanation of the entry " Decided" being blank for 1851, it has to be remarked that all the Appeals decided by the Sudder Dewanee Adawlut, in whatever way disposed of, are accounted for in the other entries. In 1850 there was one Appeal removed from the file of Regular Appeals, with permission to prefer a Special Appeal, which was shown in this entry.

No. XII.—AGGREGATE OF ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	13308	15994
Instituted during the year	98551	99041
Total....	111859	115035
Decided on merits	67274	66832
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	4818	4866
Adjusted	22962	22156
Depending 31st December	15994	19980
Decided by European Judges	134	129
Ditto Native ditto	94850	93682
Ditto Punchayets	70	43
Total decided....	95054	93854

NOTE.—The figures here will be found to agree with the details in Statements 1 to 10, minus 1201 Suits " otherwise disposed of," for which this Statement contains no entry, agreeably to the form furnished by Government.

No. XIII.—AGGREGATE OF APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

Appeals from	Zillah Judges.		Joint Judge.		Assistant Judges.		Agents.		Assistant Agent.		Principal Sudder Ameens.		Sudder Ameens.		Moonsiffs.		Jagheerdars.		Punchayets.		Revenue Authorities.	
	1850	1851	1850	1851	1850	1851	1850	1851	1850	1851	1850	1851	1850	1851	1850	1851	1850	1851	1850	1851	1850	1851
Suits Appealable.....	1664	1484	525	360	1855	2257	144	144	27	9	7183	6950	17535	15135	69620	71863	397	209	70	43	8	7
Appealed.....	115	42	10	13	61	58	45	14	6	..	417	370	694	706	3590	3427	17	12	1	..	1	..
Appeals depending	149	192	14	18	84	85	31	31	4	4	196	164	277	311	1250	1275	9	7	..	1	7	7
Total....	264	234	24	31	145	143	76	45	10	4	613	534	971	1017	4840	4702	26	19	1	1	8	7
Affirmed	23	47	4	4	27	33	23	9	5	2	263	179	371	373	1554	1568	14	9	..	..	1	2
Modified	1	6	..	..	3	2	7	..	1	1	34	34	43	58	246	285	5	4	..	..	..	..
Reversed	48	56	2	14	25	23	2	6	..	1	106	75	169	240	945	1036	1	3	..	1	..	..
Otherwise disposed of....	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	..	19	50	640	480	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dismissed on default.....	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	7	..	..	24	11	36	35	113	180	..	2	..	..	..	..
Adjusted	..	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	22	11	23	16	66	98	..	1	..	..	..	..
Total....	72	110	6	18	60	59	35	24	6	4	449	310	661	772	3564	3647	20	19	..	1	1	2
Depending 31st December.	192	124	18	13	85	84	41	21	4	..	164	224	310	245	1276	1055	6	..	1	..	7	5

No. XIV.—DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL SUITS.

	1850.	1851.
Connected with Land Rent	116	98
Otherwise connected with Land	2011	1838
Connected with Debts, Wages, &c.	91975	90858
Ditto Caste, Religion, &c.	952	1060
Total....	95054	93854

No. XV.—RESULT OF ORIGINAL SUITS.

In favor of Plaintiff.	In favor of Defendant.
67114	26740

No. XVI.—AVERAGE DURATION OF SUITS.

	1850.			1851.		
	Years.	Months.	Days.	Years.	Months.	Days.
Sudder Dewanee Adawlut Appeals	1	5	11	1	3	25
Zillah Judges — Original Suits	..	6	21	..	1	9
Zillah Judges — Appeals	..	5	14	..	5	..
Joint Judge — Original Suits	..	..	..	..	..	..
Joint Judge — Appeals	1	..	12	..	..	..
Assistant Judges — Original Suits	1	4	3	1	..	28
Assistant Judges — Appeals	..	5	11	..	6	7
Agents — Original Suits	..	8	11	..	6	6
Agents — Appeals	..	5	29	..	5	10
Assistant Agent, Original Suits	..	7	7	..	..	12
Principal Sudder Ameens — Original Suits	..	2	6	..	2	14
Principal Sudder Ameens — Appeals	..	7	1	..	2	10
Sudder Ameens, Original Suits	..	2	26	..	1	17
Moonsiffs, Original Suits	..	4	21	..	6	25
Jagheerdars, Original Suits	..	10	2	1	..	14
Punchayets, Original Suits	..	1	23	..	..	25

No. XVII.—TOTAL VALUE OF SUITS DEPENDING.

	1850.			1851.		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Before Sudder Dewanee Adawlut, Appeals	1656526	6	8	703064	0	3
Before Zillah Judges and other Courts, Original Suits	2177545	11	1	2181984	7	9
Before Zillah Judges and other Courts, Appeals	406872	15	6	641374	1	6
Total	4240945	1	3	3526422	9	6

No. XVIII.—DEBTORS IN JAIL.

	1850.				1851.			
	No.	Amount.			No.	Amount.		
		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*		*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
At the instance of individuals	809	79655	4	9	733	60558	10	6
For arrears of Revenue, at the instance of Government	..	....			..	....		
Total number in Jail	809	79655	4	9	733	60558	10	6

REVENUE. COURTS.

No. I.—PUNCHAYETS.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	....	....
Instituted during the year	....	....
Total....	....	....
Decided on merits	....	....
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	....	....
Adjusted	....	....
Otherwise disposed of	....	....
Total....	....	....
Depending 31st December	....	....

No. II.—MAMLUTDARS.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	426	345
Instituted during the year	1427	1504
Total....	1853	1849
Decided on merits	791	813
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	324	300
Adjusted	386	392
Otherwise disposed of	7	19
Total....	1508	1524
Depending 31st December	345	325

No. III.—ASSISTANT COLLECTORS.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	2	2
Instituted during the year	3	....
Total....	5	2
Decided on merits	2	1
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	....	....
Adjusted	....	....
Otherwise disposed of	1	1
Total....	3	2
Depending 31st December	2	....

No. IV.—COLLECTORS.

	1850.		1851.	
	Original.	Appeal.	Original.	Appeal.
Depending 1st January	2	102	4	92
Instituted during the year	3	147	....	162
Total....	5	249	4	254
Decided on merits	....	136	2	86
Dismissed	....	....	....	....
Dismissed on default	1	14	....	10
Adjusted	....	6	....	4
Otherwise disposed of	....	1	....	....
Total....	1	157	2	100
Depending 31st December	4	92	2	154

No. V.—SUDDER DEWANEE ADAWLUT.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	6	4
Instituted during the year	....	3
Total....	6	7
Decided	....	....
Dismissed on default	....	....
Adjusted	....	....
Confirmed	....	....
Amended	....	....
Reversed	2	2
Total....	2	2
Depending 31st December	4	5

No. VI.—AGGREGATE OF ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

	1850.	1851.
Depending 1st January	430	351
Instituted during the year	1433	1504
Total....	1863	1855
Decided on merits	793	816
Dismissed	....	....
Dismissed on default	325	300
Adjusted	386	392
Depending 31st December	351	327
Decided by Collectors and Assistant Collectors	3	3
Ditto Mamlutdars	1501	1505
Ditto Punchayets	....	....
Total decided....	1504	1508

No. VII.—AGGREGATE OF APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

Appeals from	Collectors.		Assistant Collectors.		Mamlutdars.		Punchayets.	
	1850.	1851.	1850.	1851.	1850.	1851.	1850.	1851.
Suits Appealable	157	102	2	1	1501	1505	..	..
Appealed	..	3	2	1	145	161	..	..
Appeals depending	6	4	..	1	102	91	..	..
Total....	6	7	2	2	247	252	..	..
Affirmed	..	..	..	1	83	59	..	..
Modified	..	..	..	..	25	8	..	..
Reversed	2	2	..	1	28	17	..	..
Otherwise disposed of	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Dismissed on default	..	..	..	..	14	10	..	..
Adjusted	..	..	..	..	6	4	..	..
Total....	2	2	..	2	157	98	..	..
Depending 31st December	4	5	2	..	90	154	..	..

No. VIII.—DESCRIPTION OF ORIGINAL SUITS.

	1850.	1851.
Connected with Land Rent	1452	1426
Otherwise connected with Land	52	82
Total....	1504	1508

No. IX.—RESULT OF ORIGINAL SUITS.

In favor of Plaintiff.	In favor of Defendant.
887	621

No. X.—AVERAGE DURATION OF SUITS.

	1850.			1851.		
	Years.	Months.	Days.	Years.	Months.	Days.
Sudder Dewanee Adawlut, Appeals	1	..	9	1	2	17
Collectors..... Original Suits	2	3	14	1	6	5
Collectors..... Appeals	9	3	22	..	8	17
Assistant Collectors, Original Suits	2	11	15	..	3	28
Mamlutdars, Original Suits	4	3	17	..	3	25
Punchayets, Original Suits	..	..	..	..	..	..

No. XI.—TOTAL VALUE OF SUITS DEPENDING.

	1850.			1851.		
	Amount.			Amount.		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Before Sudder Dewanee Adawlut, Appeals	1114	11	7	2327	4	6
Before Collectors, Assistant Collectors, and Mamlutdars, Original Suits.	17021	2	10	11225	10	11
Before Collectors, Appeals	7991	5	11	8872	12	8
Total....	26127	4	4	22425	12	1

No. XII.—DEBTORS IN JAILS.

	1850.				1851.			
	No.	Amount.			No.	Amount.		
		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*		*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
At the instance of individuals	1	8	6	0	3	49	9	0
For Arrears of Revenue at the instance of Government	..	....			2	824	8	4
Total number in Jail	1	8	6	0	5	874	1	4

GENERAL REMARKS.

The total number of Suits for disposal in the year under notice shows an increase over the previous year of 3,176, made up of an increase of 490 in the number instituted, and an excess of 2,686 in the arrears left from the year 1850, compared with the excess in that year, brought from 1849. This increase of 490 in the number of Suits instituted is so small as not to appear remarkable in the aggregate, and, viewed separately, the fluctuation in the different Zillahs presents no striking feature.

2. The Zillah Judge of the Konkan observes, in respect to an increase in the Tannah division of his charge, that "it is not so large, but that it may be ascribed to the usual increase of business occurring every year"; and he also states that it may be owing to a more general acquaintance with the practice of our Courts, and a desire to resort to them for justice. A falling-off in the number instituted in the province of Kandesh is considered by the Acting Judge to be owing to the almost total failure of the latter crops, so that it was not, he observes, "worth a creditor's while to sue such of his clients as were cultivators of the soil." And the Judge of Poona reports, regarding an increase of 767 on his files, that it was owing to the whole of the "Courts of the Native Judicial Functionaries being in operation during the year, and to the periodical rains having set in so favorably as to encourage creditors to file Suits against their debtors, under an impression that the harvest would be abundant."

3. The Judge of Surat ventures no opinion on the point; he says, "it is impossible to account for the increase of Suits filed; and the amount is so small—not ten per cent.—that conjecture on the subject would be mere loss of time"; and the Acting Judge of Ahmedabad, in allusion to an increase on his files, writes that "Statement 7 shows the number of Suits instituted to have been 17,139, which is an increase of only 162 on the number instituted in 1850; this difference is so small as scarcely to require remark, except that the number of Suits still continues increasing"; and he then goes on to show that the number has increased from 10,645 in 1848 to 17,139 in the year under review, adding that he had not heard any very satisfactory reason for the increase; and that, as he had so recently joined, he was unable to offer any opinion of his own on the subject.

4. There is a decrease, as shown below, of 1,029 in the number of Suits disposed of; but as this only forms a fourteenth of the considerable increase that marked 1851, the Court is not prepared to pronounce it an unfavorable result.

TABLE OF ORIGINAL SUITS.

	1850.				1851.			
	On merits.	Dismissed on default.	Adjusted, &c.	Total.	On merits.	Dismissed on default.	Adjusted, &c.	Total.
Ahmedabad	9598	2345	5162	17105	9219	2365	5079	16663
Surat	2353	1004	680	4037	2436	904	720	4060
Broach	4419	637	1376	6432	4612	601	1464	6677
Tannah	6460	157	1712	8329	7288	135	1604	9027
Rutnagherry	2937	296	1048	4281	3279	401	1026	4706
Poona	9368	50	2952	12370	9419	98	3029	12546
Poona Agent	296	51	89	436	162	24	40	226
Sholapoor	3908	29	1217	5154	4268	34	1386	5688
Ahmednuggur	12389	40	3453	15882	12505	91	3467	16063
Kandesh	7647	35	2851	10533	7596	29	2704	10329
Dharwar	6859	124	2620	9603	4905	143	1899	6947
Belgaum Agent	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	5
Colaba Agent	983	13	268	1264	1108	36	316	1460
Total....	67217	4781	23428	95426	66798	4865	22734	94397
							Total for 1850....	95426
							Decrease....	1029

5. The decrease, it will be observed, is confined to the Courts in the Ahmedabad, Kandesh, and Dharwar Zillahs, and those subordinate to the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan. The causes in Ahmedabad are stated to be the filing of an unusual number of Suits too late in the year to admit of their being disposed of before the close of it; the illness of the Sudder Ameen of the city, which occasioned his Court to be shut for nearly a third of the year; and some changes in the appointments of the other subordinate Functionaries of the City. One cause of decrease in the Dharwar Zillah was the vacation in 1851, none having been allowed in 1850; and another was the attendance of all the Native Judicial Officers, excepting the Principal Sudder Ameen of Belgaum, for 16 days, on the Judicial Commissioner. The Judge of Kandesh, in noticing his decrease, represents the number of Suits disposed of, compared with the number filed, as 86 and a fraction in the year under report, to 86 and a lower fraction in 1850. The arrears on the aggregate file have increased from 15,994 in 1850 to 19,980 in 1851.

6. The Appellate Files give a decrease of 29, as the following Abstract exhibits; separately some of them show an increase; and even collectively the actual work is in excess, as the number of Appeals disposed of on investigation is in excess by 67.

STATEMENT OF APPEALS.

	1850.				1851.			
	On merits.	Dismissed on default.	Adjusted, &c.	Total.	On merits.	Dismissed on default.	Adjusted, &c.	Total.
Ahmedabad	668	32	20	720	481	8	9	498
Surat	292	11	14	317	201	13	6	220
Broach	112	4	4	120	123	6	16	145
Tannah	276	10	5	291	305	7	17	329
Rutnagherry	349	6	4	359	689	10	14	713
Poona	714	1	15	730	581	2	16	599
Poona Agent	26	....	....	26	18	1	1	20
Sholapoor	82	1	9	92	119	5	8	132
Ahmednuggur	258	....	78	336	546	149	15	710
Kandesh	215	....	3	218	216	13	11	240
Dharwar	750	47	582	1379	534	20	402	956
Belgaum Agent	....	2	....	2	4	4	....	8
Colaba Agent	100	2	....	102	92	....	1	93
Total....	3842	116	734	4692	3909	238	516	4663
							Total for 1850....	4692
							Decrease	29

7. The Appeals in arrears have been diminished from 1,777 in 1850 to 1,536 in 1851; those on the Kandesh and Rutnagherry Files being as low as 42 and 46, respectively.

8. In the Revenue Courts there were less Original Suits for disposal by 8 in 1851 than in 1850, more disposed of by 4, and less arrears by 24; and as regards Appeals, the Return shows 261 for disposal, 102 disposed of, and 159 in arrear.

9. The work of the Sudder Dewanee Adawlut has increased from 110 decisions in 1850 to 196 in 1851. The following Abstract gives the work of the Judges, severally and in conjunction :—

	Decided by a single Judge.	Referred to a full Court.	Decided in conjunction with other Judges.	Referred by a full Court to a single Judge.	Total number disposed of.
Messrs. A. Bell	4	1	42	..	47
J. Warden	4	6	81	..	91
P. W. LeGeyt	15	13	151	..	179
G. Grant	..	..	131	..	131
M. Larken	..	..	114	..	114

10. In addition to the above, there were 661 Petitions presented for the admission of Special Appeals, which, with the arrears of the previous year, 353, made a total of 1,014 such applications, of which 117 were admitted, 136 dismissed on default, and 422 rejected, leaving 339 under consideration. The work of each Judge in the disposal of these applications is as follows :—

	Arrears on the 1st January 1851.	Presented during 1851.	Total.	Disposed of during 1851.	Arrears on the 1st January 1852.
Messrs. A. Bell	30	276	306	70	....
J. Warden	65	183	248	166	82
P. W. LeGeyt	128	155	283	158	125
G. Grant	130	47	177	132	45
M. Larken	....	....	....	149	87
Total....	353	661	1014	675	339

11. The File of Mr. Bell, who was elevated to his seat in Council on the 28th April, was transferred to Mr. Larken, who was appointed Officiating Judge on the 7th May; and in respect to the state of the other Files, it has to be observed that Mr. Warden was absent from the seat of the Court on Circuit from the 1st August to the 30th November, Mr. LeGeyt from the 23rd April to the 31st July, and Mr. Grant from the 1st January to the 31st March, and again from the 10th to the 31st December. Three of the Judges were also absent on leave,—Mr. Bell from the 28th March to the 28th April, Mr. Warden from the 1st to the 31st July, and Mr. LeGeyt from the 1st to the 20th August.

12. Statement No. 16 of the set for the Civil Courts shows a shorter average duration of Suits than the Return for 1850, excepting as regards the Courts of the Moonsiffs, and in another instance or two; and Statement 10 of the set for the Revenue Courts gives also a favorable result in this respect. Statement 15 of the former set, and Statement 9 of the latter, exhibit very much the same numbers and proportion in respect to the result of Original Suits as the previous year's Returns. Statements 17 and 11 of the two sets give a considerably less total value of Suits depending; and in respect to Statements 18 and 12, giving the number of debtors in Jail at the instance of individuals and of Government, the only remark necessary to make is, that the number of persons, and the amount for which they were incarcerated, are higher in the latter Statement, and lower in the former, than in the year preceding.

(Signed) J. MORRIS,
1st Assistant Registrar.

Bombay, Sudder Dewanee Adawlut,
2nd December 1852.

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